

SOPHIE R. WHARTON

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EDUCATION

HARVARD UNIVERSITY 2007 - 2011

- A.B. degree with highest honors in Psychology, *Magna cum laude*, 2011
- Completed the Cognitive Science Track of the Mind, Brain & Behavior (MBB) honors program
- Honors Thesis: "Thou Shalt Versus Thou Shalt Not: The Neural Processes Underlying Decisions to Help Versus Decisions to Avoid Doing Harm," Advisors: Joshua Greene and Fiery Cushman

AWARDS & HONORS

- **Phi Beta Kappa**, Alpha Iota Chapter, Harvard College 2011
- **Thomas T. Hoopes Prize** for outstanding senior thesis 2011
- **Gordon W. Allport Prize**, departmental award for thesis of exceptionally high quality in personality psychology, the study of prejudice, social psychology, rumor, or social ethics 2011
- **John Harvard Scholarship**, awarded to top 5% of class 2009-2010
- **Mary Gordon Roberts Summer Mind, Brain, Behavior Award**, grant for thesis research 2010
- **Harvard College Research Program (HCRP) grant** for work done in Greene Lab 2008

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

SUSAN CAREY, DEVELOPMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY LAB, HARVARD UNIVERSITY 2007

Research Assistant under Fiery Cushman

- Studied the role of intentions and consequences in children's judgments of wrongness and punishment
- Worked at the Discovery Center in the Boston Museum of Science testing moral judgments of young children
- Created computer animations for a separate social evaluation study testing toddlers' abilities to attribute morality and mental states to animate vs. inanimate objects

JOSHUA GREENE, MORAL COGNITION LAB, HARVARD UNIVERSITY 2008-2011

Research Assistant under Fiery Cushman

- **Spring 2008:** Designed and conducted study of adult moral judgment, assessing the effect of "transfer of intent" on subjects' beliefs about suitable punishments for various crimes. Compared subjects' intuitions with legal treatment of real cases.
- **Fall 2008-Spring 2011:** Helped design and conduct several neuroimaging studies to determine which brain regions are sensitive to certain causal and intentional distinctions (e.g., the difference between actions and omissions) when forming moral judgments. Received training in the operation of fMRI technology at the Martinos Center at Massachusetts General Hospital and full certification at Harvard Center for Brain Science. Took on major role in analysis of neural data.

LAURIE SANTOS, COMPARATIVE COGNITION LAB, YALE UNIVERSITY Summer 2009

Research Assistant under Webb Philips and Nick Buttrick

- Worked with capuchin monkeys to study economic decision-making (traded tokens for various food products and shifted costs to see how price influences preferences) and implicit biases (used touchscreens to conduct a monkey version of the IAT)

KAREN WYNN, INFANT LAB, YALE UNIVERSITY Summer 2009

Research Assistant under Kiley Hamlin

- Assisted in a number of infant studies related to social evaluation, reciprocity/helping, and ingroup/outgroup
- Analyzed videos of infant participants, coding for looking time and other patterns

SENIOR THESIS PROJECT

Thesis Committee: Joshua Greene, Fiery Cushman, Felix Warneken 2010-2011

- Designed and conducted senior thesis investigating the neural basis of our emotional impulse to help as compared to our aversion to causing harm
- Wrote a new set of 40 moral dilemmas, programmed MATLAB scripts, imaged 34 subjects in 3T scanner, and conducted analysis of brain data using SPM

PUBLICATIONS

Cushman, F.A., Murray, D., Gordon-McKeon, S., Wharton, S., Greene, J.D. (submitted) Judgment before principle: Engagement of the frontoparietal control network in condemning harmful omissions.

Cushman, F.A., Sheketoff, R., Wharton, S., Carey, S. (in prep) Excusing accidents across moral development.

EXTRACURRICULAR EXPERIENCE

THE HARVARD UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH JOURNAL

2007 - 2010

Writer & Associate Managing Editor of Content for peer-reviewed undergraduate research journal

- Wrote feature articles on the emerging field of neurophilosophy and on the Origins of Life Initiative. Profiled work of Barbara Grosz, Dean of the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study.
- Developed story ideas and edited work of new writers

HARVARD SOCIETY FOR MIND, BRAIN & BEHAVIOR

2008 - 2010

Co-Chair, 2009 - 2010, Board Member since 2008 for group of students interested in mind and brain sciences

- Organized weekly seminars and discussions with professors and researchers from a range of fields
- Provided advising services for underclassmen interested in the Mind, Brain & Behavior (MBB) Program
- Organized large-scale symposia (e.g. Symposium on Economics, Psychology & Neuroscience, held March 2009)

EC10 UNIT TEST GRADER/TUTOR

2010

- Hired after competitive application process to grade and tutor students in introductory economics course

BUREAU OF STUDY COUNSEL PEER TUTOR

2011

- Tutored student in Mind, Brain and Behavior course

CRIMSON KEY SOCIETY (*Service organization of student ambassadors*)

2008 - 2011

- Led campus tours for a variety of groups: foreign diplomats, visiting scholars, etc.
- Helped organize Freshmen Orientation Week, Parents Visiting Weekend, and Commencement

SKILLS

Computer: Excel, STATA, SPSS, MATLAB, SPM (fMRI data analysis)

Language: Proficiency in Spanish (reading, writing, and speaking)

Hobbies: Philosophy, Flamenco Dance, African Dance, Unicycling, Snowboarding, Jazz, Travel